

Alumni Columns

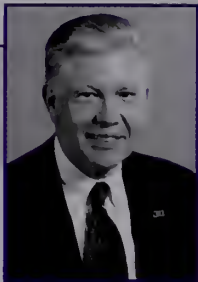
Magazine

Winter 2005

Northwestern State University of Louisiana

NORTHWESTERN STATE
University of Louisiana

Alumni Plaza



Dr. Randall J. Webb, '65, '66
President
Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

When Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the Gulf Coast, the people of Northwestern State University – our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends – were there immediately to help those who had been devastated by these storms.

Education is our primary mission, but Northwestern is also here to serve the people of Louisiana and the region in other ways.

Before Katrina struck, the Red Cross utilized our Health and Human Performance Building as a shelter. The shelter stayed open for more than four weeks, housing as many as 750 people. Prather Coliseum was also used as a shelter for several days after Hurricane Rita.

The Northwestern family worked with the Natchitoches community to provide for the needs of those in shelter, which ranged from clothing and personal items to providing activities for children. Many NSU employees and students volunteered their time at the shelter in addition to maintaining their regular work or class schedule. A number of employees and students also gave their time to helping out area churches and organizations which also provided shelter for evacuees.

Alumni such as Katherine (Coke) Robbins took a more active role in assisting evacuees by organizing an effort to gather donations of supplies and ship them from their hometown in Colorado to Natchitoches. Supporters of Northwestern also did a little something extra by donating to the Hurricane Relief Fund established at the NSU Foundation. This fund provided needed assistance to students who were no longer able to depend on their family to help them pay for their college expenses.

In the aftermath of Katrina, the university immediately began working to assist students whose college or university could not operate because of the storm. Northwestern was able to help 150 students by enrolling them for the semester and deferring payments until their home institution could assess their financial situation. Northwestern joined a nationwide consortium of 100 colleges and universities, which offered free online classes to displaced students under a program called the Sloan Semester.

The university helped its sister institution, McNeese State, by arranging for food and shelter for 31 international students, who were displaced by Hurricane Rita. NSU also allowed McNeese's football team to use Turpin Stadium while its stadium was unavailable.

The Northwestern family has shown an incredible willingness to help others over the last few months. Their generosity and giving spirit has made me proud to be part of Northwestern. I know you are proud of them too.

Dr. Chris Maggio, '85, '91
Director of Alumni and Development



Alumni and friends,

Following the success of another memorable NSU Homecoming weekend, I am greatly encouraged to hear many graduates and friends of the university express interest in supporting the development of an Alumni Plaza. We are always looking for ways to draw our alumni into involvement with the University and this is certainly a visible way to be part of the NSU legacy.

All supporters of Northwestern are invited to participate in the development of the Alumni Plaza. The engraved bricks, tiles and other fixtures can be purchased for yourself, your graduate or your business. You may wish to leave a lasting legacy for a beloved professor, your Greek brothers and sisters, a parent or grandparent or someone who was a mentor to you. Former faculty and staff who hold a special place in their hearts for NSU are also invited to support this endeavor.

The plaza will be prominently located in the Creative and Performing Arts complex and will not only beautify the campus, but will provide a gathering place for students and visitors. Imagine future visitors to our campus pausing in the Plaza, reading the names engraved there and feeling a connection to the history of Northwestern.

As an individual, family or corporate sponsor, your generous contribution to this historic project will also support the Alumni Plaza Scholarship Fund to help recruit and retain outstanding students. Please consider supporting the future of Northwestern by becoming part of the university's history.

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Natchitoches, 1985, 1991

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NORTHWESTERN STATE University of Louisiana

Alumni Plaza

Alumni Plaza to give you a chance to contribute to NSU's campus

Alumni and friends of Northwestern State University have a new opportunity to enhance the Natchitoches campus by contributing toward the construction of the Alumni Plaza.

The Alumni Plaza will be located in the outdoor area between the Orville Hanchey Gallery and the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium. Construction will begin next year when sufficient funds are raised.

"The Alumni Plaza is intended to be a tribute to those whose paths led them to and through Northwestern State University," said President Dr. Randall J. Webb. "We want to create a tranquil setting that will be enjoyed by all who visit the campus and also encourage patrons to leave a personal remembrance of their experience at NSU."

Donations from alumni and friends of Northwestern will pay for construction and maintenance of the Alumni Plaza. Several levels of donations have been established. Those who contribute can do so in their own name or the name of their business. They can also recognize a family member, a brother or sister in a Greek organization, mentor or a member of Northwestern's faculty or staff.

The landscaped Plaza will have as its centerpiece a multi-tiered fountain made possible by a donation from Dan and Lilly Chase. The fountain area will be surrounded by wrought iron benches and decorative light posts.

Twenty wrought iron benches are available at \$2,000 each. The benches will blend with the campus' architectural style and can be designed with the name of a donor or family wrought within the bench.

The Alumni Plaza will include eleven traditional lampposts to compliment the Plaza and surrounding buildings. The posts are available for a gift of \$1,500 and will include a 12" by 12" granite tile at the base of each lamp for the name of the donor.

A gift of \$1,000 will provide the Plaza with one of eight crepe myrtle trees designed to symbolize the growth and vitality of Northwestern. The trees will be marked with a 12" by 12" granite tile recognizing the donors.

Those wishing to help the Alumni Plaza become



Dan and Lilly Chase blazed the trail in supporting the development of the Alumni Plaza by purchasing the multi-tiered fountain that will be the centerpiece of the plaza. The fountain will commemorate the couple's 50th wedding anniversary.

a reality can also purchase a 12" by 12" granite tile for \$300. These granite tiles will surround the fountain and can contain up to three lines of 13 characters including spaces.

Donors can also purchase a brick paver which will be used to construct the Plaza at \$100 each. The bricks can have a maximum of three lines of 13 characters each including spaces.

"The Alumni Plaza will become a permanent part of Northwestern and I believe it will become one of the most popular spots on campus," said Director of Alumni and Development Dr. Chris Maggio. "This project will help beautify our historic campus and help us remember those who made Northwestern the outstanding university it is today."

According to Maggio, donations to the project will also create the Alumni Plaza Scholarship Fund, which will help NSU recruit and retain outstanding students.

"Alumni and friends of Northwestern will play a role in developing future alumni by supporting this project," said Maggio. "This is a unique project that can be a lasting benefit to the university in many ways."

Maggio credited Bill Brent, director of the Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice E. Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts, with proposing the project. He thanked architect Larry Richards, graduate assistant Drake Owens of the Office of Alumni and Development and the NSU Physical Plant for their work on the Alumni Plaza.

For more information on participating the Alumni Plaza, call (318) 357-4243.



Seven alumni honored with Long Purple Line Induction

Seven Northwestern State University alumni have been inducted into the NSU Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line for 2005. This year's inductees are Dr. Robert Alost of Natchitoches, Ellis Coutee, Melva Juanita Martinez Coutee and Tom F. Phillips of Baton Rouge, Maxine Roge' Johnson of Shreveport, John R. McConathy of Bossier City and Ken Moran of Alexandria.

Induction into the Long Purple Line is the highest honor Northwestern bestows on its alumni.

Dr. Robert Alost served as president of Northwestern State University from 1986 until 1996, helping lead the university back to prominence. During his tenure, NSU began an unprecedented period of growth, enrolling more than 9,000 students for the first time in school history.

"I was surprised to receive this



Dr. Robert Alost

honor," said Alost, who started the Long Purple Line during his presidency in 1990. "There are a lot of alumni who have done a lot more than I have."

While Alost was president, Northwestern created the Louisiana Scholars' College and was of the first universities in the country to enter the Joint Venture Program (JOVE) with NASA.

Alost, a 1957 graduate of Northwestern was a faculty member at the university from 1963 until 1968, head of the Department of Health and Physical Education from 1968 until 1975 and dean of the College of Education from 1975 until 1982. He was co-founder of the Louisiana School for Math Science and the Arts and director of the school from 1982 to 1986.

"I had some great mentors among the people who taught me in high school and college and I listened to them," said Alost. "I remember coach Walter Ledet telling me that you can do amazing things through teamwork and that's what happened at Northwestern beginning in 1986."

Alost received a master's from Northwestern in 1958 and a doctorate at LSU in 1963.

He has been a financial consultant since 1996.

Ellis Coutee, a 1960 graduate in accounting, was a senior agent & life/fire casualty insurance specialist in the Examination Division of the U.S. Treasury Department for 30 years. He is an enrolled agent with Coutee & Coutee Tax Consultants in Baton Rouge.

"Initially I was amazed. Perhaps flabbergasted would be more fitting," said Mr. Coutee. "At the top or center of my reaction is a feeling of humbleness. The Long Purple Line honor bestowed by NSU is indeed an honor to be proud of, yet it must be

Juanita Coutee, a native of Zwolle, is a 1958 graduate of Northwestern in mathematics and business. She earned a master's degree in mathematics in May 1960 from Northwestern. Juanita Coutee worked for Exxon Corporation in Baton Rouge for 33 years and was the company's first female professional employee and first female supervisor.

"Northwestern took a country girl who loved books and problem solving and developed her into a young lady who wasn't



Juanita and Ellis Coutee

one that is accepted in the proper context and without arrogance or change in our lives."

He is active in church and civic affairs as a member of St. Thomas More Catholic Church, and the Knights of Columbus where he was an elected state officer for eight years. Ellis Coutee is also a member of the Downtown Lions Club and is a life member of the Louisiana Lions Camp and the Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation.

"NSU laid the cornerstone in my life with a strong foundation structured to withstand the thrills of joy and the sportsmanship of losing," said Mr. Coutee. "I knew that there would be many opportunities afforded me with an undergraduate degree in accounting. However, I also learned that there would be many obstacles, roadblocks and temptations to deal with. My value system was enhanced as a student at NSU and my departure in 1960 was filled with honesty, high morals and principles, intrinsic values and a keen desire to succeed from a life of poverty."

afraid to tackle any task," said Mrs. Coutee. "My studies in mathematics, education, business and accounting as well as varied electives provided me with the background needed to be able to 'talk the talk' of clients of various fields. Even some of the instructors who were knowledgeable but not good teachers helped, for they forced me to research for myself."

She is a member of St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

"I was shocked but delighted since I have passed the point in my life for awards," said Mrs. Coutee. "I assume that my honor is due to my support for my husband who works actively in the support of NSU."

The Coutees have assisted Northwestern by establishing an endowed professorship in the Department of Mathematics and an endowed scholarship for NSU students in accounting, mathematics or nursing.

Maxine Johnson, a 1962 graduate in nursing, is director of Grants, Planning and Development and an associate professor of nursing at NSU. She has been a member of Northwestern's faculty for 39 years, working at Northwestern's Baton Rouge nursing campus from 1964 to 1969 and in Shreveport since 1971. She also received a Master's of Science in Nursing from the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

"The only thing I can say that I was awestruck to receive this honor,"



Maxine Johnson

said Johnson. "It was the greatest thing that has happened to me at Northwestern."

In 2004, Johnson was inducted into the Louisiana State Nurses Association Hall of Fame. She was a member of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing under three governors from 1989 until 1998 and a member of Gov. Mike Foster's Higher Education Transition Team.

A decorated veteran, Johnson retired as a colonel in the Army Nurse Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve in 2000 after 28 years of service. She was chief nurse of the 807th Medical Brigade, a member of the Advisory Council to Chief, Army Nurse Corps for Reserve Affairs and chief nurse of the 94th General Hospital.

"When I was growing up, I loved science and had an older sister who was a nurse. So I followed nursing as a goal," said Johnson. "The degree I got at Northwestern opened other opportunities to go to graduate school, teach and go into the Army."

"I studied nursing on the Baton Rouge campus and had several faculty who were outstanding role models. I aspired to be as good as they were."

John McConathy, a 1951 graduate in health and physical education, had a successful 31-year career as an educator in Bienville and Bossier Parishes. He served 12 years as superintendent of schools in Bossier Parish before retiring in 1983. McConathy also earned a master's in administration from Northwestern in 1960.

"I was extremely honored to be considered and happy to be chosen. It's a good feeling when there are so many who are worthy of such an honor," said McConathy. "Northwestern gave me the basic education I needed to be prepared for life after I got out."



John McConathy

An All-American basketball player at Northwestern, McConathy was selected in the first round of the NBA draft in 1951. He is a member of the Graduate "N" Club Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame and the Hall of Distinguished Educators at NSU.

McConathy was an agent with New York Life Insurance for 21 years and was named Businessman of the Year by the Bossier Parish Chamber of Commerce in 2004. He is also chairman of the board of Citizen's National Bank.

"While at Northwestern, I was able to develop some of the people skills that helped me later on," said McConathy. "At home, I was taught that everyone was important and that I should do my best. I learned to apply myself and develop the skills that I had. My attitude was that if you push people up, they would help pull you up."

Ken Moran is an entrepreneur who has built several successful businesses from scratch. He is owner of Recycling Services Inc., which encompasses four companies, RSI Paper Mill, Ken Moran Trucking Co. Inc., and Pac-More Manufacturing.

"It's an honor and I'm proud of it," he said. "There are some fine people on that list who have done a lot for the college."

A Natchitoches native,



Ken Moran

Moran earned a degree in business administration from Northwestern in 1963. He started his first paper recycling business in 1978 with no money, doing the work himself. That company now services retail and grocery chains in six states. Trucking is a large component of recycling, so Moran started a trucking company that runs all over the United States.

"To be successful in business, you've got to have some luck and you've got to be a gambler," Moran said. "I worked hard, got lucky and educated myself." He also places high value on dedicated employees and treating reliable workers fairly.

Moran's paper mill in Alexandria, currently under construction, is the fulfillment of a dream for him. The mill will produce roofing felt for use in new housing and will allow him to expand his company even more. Moran has been able to help the community by contributing space for the Alexandria Food Bank and providing fork lifts to unload trucks of food items.

Tom Phillips, a 1949 graduate of Northwestern, is a native of Many. After earning a law degree at LSU, and serving in the Judge Advocate General Corps, he joined the one of the state's most respected law firms, Taylor, Porter, Brooks, Fuller & Phillips.

"I was totally surprised to receive this honor since it has been a long time since I finished at Northwestern," said Phillips. "I keep up with activities at the university and have returned for reunions."

Phillips became a partner in the firm in 1958 and served as managing partner from 1990 until 1999. He retired as a partner in 1999 and continues now as "of counsel" status



Tom Phillips

with the firm.

Phillips was a generalist in the practice of law with emphasis on civil litigation. During the first years of his career, he was active in insurance defense, maritime and labor matters, and began representing utility companies in legislative and regulatory matters. Beginning in the mid-1970's, the majority of his practice evolved to the federal courts involving controversies in natural gas supply contracts, oil and gas exploration and lease disputes, antitrust actions, bankruptcy, lenders liability, and directors and officers liability actions. In later years, a significant portion of his practice was devoted to representation of an electric public utility before federal and state regulatory agencies and courts.

"I really enjoyed Northwestern," said Phillips. "I was not noted for being a scholar, but when I hit law school, I was prepared. I had some wonderful teachers who I held in the highest regard."

NSU nearing campaign goal

Northwestern State University is close to reaching the goal of raising \$18.84 million in the university's first capital campaign. Through mid-October, NSU has raised \$17.5 million with just longer than two years to go in the campaign.

This campaign has raised awareness of giving to Northwestern State," said Director of Alumni and Development Dr. Chris Maggio. "It has broken down some of the myths that our alumni do not have the capacity to give because of our roots as a traditional normal school."

The campaign, "For A Brighter Tomorrow," is raising funds for endowed scholarships, endowed professorships and chairs, faculty/staff support, athletics and other needs at the University. The \$18.84 million goal corresponds to the year Northwestern was founded, 1884.

"We have shown that Northwestern is capable of fundraising," said Maggio. "Alumni and friends have an affinity for Northwestern and recognize the important role the university played in their lives. Many times in the past, they weren't asked to give. We have also opened up new avenues for giving."

NSU has received three endowed chairs worth \$1 million each and 15 endowed professorships worth \$100,000 each since the campaign began. The University is awaiting matching funds for one endowed chair and three endowed professorships. Pledges for two additional endowed professorships have been made.

An endowed chair or professorship is created by a benefactor to fund the academic activities and research of a faculty member who has established a record of excellence in a specific academic discipline. Interest from the endowed chairs and professorships provide needed resources to support faculty innovations in teaching, training and continuous improvement. These faculty innovations determine the quality of a university's programs and its student output. It enhances the reputation of the university.

"These academic chairs and professorships are very important to the university because they allow Northwestern to attract and retain faculty who are respected in their field," said Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Thomas Hanson. "Top faculty considers the availability of private support when determining whether to accept a position. Because of this support, Northwestern can attract faculty with national and international reputations."

Maggio emphasized that all contributors have played a role in the campaign.

"We have emphasized both the large and small gifts and have created a spirit of giving to help the university," said Maggio. "We are appreciative of all those who care enough about

Northwestern to help because by working together, we have been able to do some great things."

The Capital Campaign also includes grants and donations from businesses and other private entities as well as state and federal agencies.

"Our faculty have played a major role by creating and obtaining grants from partnerships," said Maggio. "This has allowed Northwestern to expand and enhance its academic programs to better serve our students. For the university to thrive, we have to seek outside funding and not remain wholly dependent on state resources."

Maggio said all areas of the university have put out a unified effort.

"Our faculty and staff understood that the impact that this campaign could have on the university," he said. "Many of them have worked extremely hard for Northwestern's benefit."

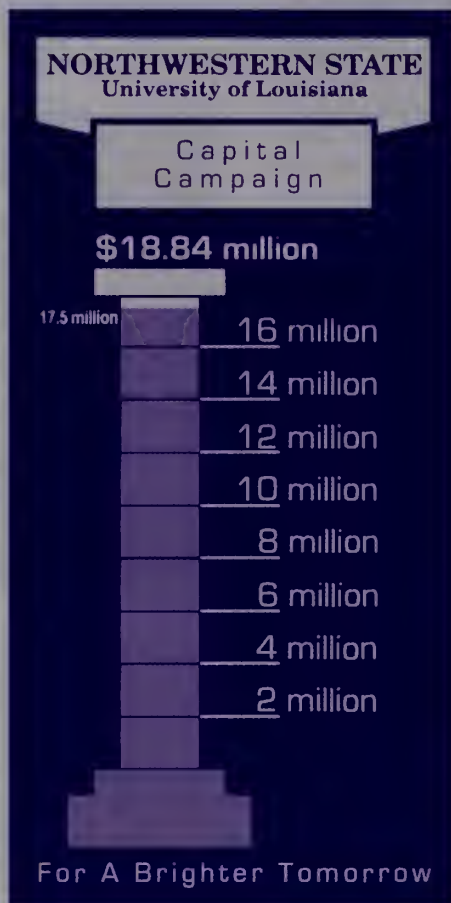
NSU's Athletic Department has played a big role in the capital campaign. The athletic program has had events including its recent Scholarship Auction to raise funds and has also raised funds to improve facilities and to enhance programs.

"The athletic programs have been part of the engine that has made this campaign go," said Maggio. "Demonstrating athletics are an important part of the university. Their department's recent success has encouraged more people to get involved."

Even though the university is close to reaching its goal, Maggio doesn't believe alumni and friends will pass up the chance to further support NSU.

"We think success will breed success as we near and reach our goal," said Maggio. "I don't think someone will decide not to give because the goal has been met. It will encourage others to get involved once they see success. It's like when a football team wins, people don't say I won't support them because they don't need it. They see that the team is winning and join in."

To find out how you can help Northwestern, contact the NSU Foundation at (318) 357-4414.



SPOTLIGHT

Do you or someone you know deserve a moment in the Spotlight?

Spotlight is a section in the Alumni Columns Magazine that highlights the achievements of alumni and friends of Northwestern. If you know someone who deserves his or her time in the Spotlight, can contact the editor at andersonj@nsula.edu.

SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Donald L. Elfert is listed in the 2005-2006 edition of Marquis Who's Who in Science and Engineering. He was also listed in the 1991 and subsequent editions of Marquis Who's Who in the South and Southwest. Elfert earned his BS in industrial arts education in 1954 and his MS in Industrial Education in 1959. Both degrees are from NSU. He is a retired associate profession of engineering at McNeese State University. He held many positions, including chairman of the Gulf Southwest Section, in the American Society for Engineering Education. He has also won awards for his service to the organization.

Benton Mayor and former NSU student **David Riggins** is the President of the Louisiana Municipal Association. The organization was created to promote progressive leadership, efficient public services and effective governmental performance of elected officials.

Dr. Kendi Hensel Pim received the Wyeth Emerging Leader Award from the American Osteopathic Foundation. The award was established to recognize and honor osteopathic physicians who exhibit exemplary characteristics of emerging leaders within the profession. Pim is an assistant professor in the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Family Medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. She is a 1993 Louisiana Scholars' College graduate.

Archie Anderson, 1982 graduate, has been named president of Intracorp Disability Management, a division of CIGNA Group Insurance. In his new role with CIGNA, Anderson will have primary responsibility for the profitability and growth of the disability management business, setting strategy and leading all functional areas including operations, field and telephonic case management, fee management, marketing, sales and administration.

Stamey, Williams join Alumni Board of Directors



The NSU Alumni Relations Board met during Homecoming weekend. Shown are (front) Director of Alumni and Development Dr. Chris Maggio, NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb, Jerry Brungart, Jimmy Williams, K. Michael Sawrie, Bryant Lewis, Matt Koury, (back) Brandon Scott Andrews, Gail Jones, Dr. Leonard A. Williams, Carroll Long, Glenn Talbert, Joseph B. Stamey, J. Michael Wilburn and Tommy Chester. Not pictured is Kip Patrick.

Joseph B. Stamey and **Dr. Leonard A. Williams** have been appointed to the Northwestern State University Alumni Board of Directors.

Stamey, a 1983 graduate of Northwestern State University, is a practicing attorney in Natchitoches with Stamey and Miller, L.L.C., a professional law corporation. Stamey earned degrees in accounting and business administration at NSU in 1983 and graduated from Tulane Law School in 1986. While an undergraduate at Northwestern, he was Student Government Association President for two years and served for one year on the Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Societies and was named the national undergraduate Kappa Sigma Fraternity Man of the Year.

Stamey's family has close ties to Northwestern. NSU alumni in his immediate family are his wife Dina, his brothers David and James and his grandfather, whose 1899 diploma from Louisiana Normal School (as NSU was known then) hangs on the wall of his office. The Stamey family are avid supporters of NSU Athletics and Stamey hopes to become more involved in recruiting and institutional development.

"I view this as a way to give back to an institution that gave so much to me and my family," Stamey said. "One reason I chose to stay in Natchitoches is because NSU enhances the quality of life of this area."

Stamey is the father of four children, Stephen, Josie, Diana, who attends NSU

Elementary Lab School, and Sarah.

Williams graduated from NSU in 1993 with a B.A. in broadcast journalism and marketing. He earned a master's of education at University of New Orleans in 1999 and a Ph.D. at UNO in May 2005 in higher education administration. He has over 10 years experience in higher education management and institutional development. He is director of the Office of Career Services at UNO, and is closely involved in fundraising and corporate development. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Williams and his wife, Angela, also an NSU graduate, took a temporary residence in Natchitoches.

A native of New Orleans, Williams was involved in many campus organizations during his undergraduate days, including Blue Key, the Student Activities Board, Black Student Association and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and was a Freshman Connector. He was on the staffs of *The Current Sauce*, *Potpourri* and *KNWD*. Williams was involved in news production for KLAX-TV in Alexandria and was news director of KZBL-FM in Natchitoches.

"My interest is to make sure there is an outlet for current students to have more connection with alumni," Williams said. He would like to see reunions among members and former members of groups like the Student Activities Board throughout the year, not just during homecoming.

"It's been my experience that happy students make happy alumni," he said.



Joseph B. Stamey



Dr. Leonard A. Williams

Chadick named recipient of Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Stan Chadick and Dr. Randall J. Webb

Dr. Stan R. Chadick has been selected as the 2005 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award at Northwestern State University.

Chadick, a professor of mathematics, has been teaching at Northwestern

since 1969 and served as the head of the Department of Mathematics from 1978-83. He was curriculum coordinator for the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts from 1983-85 and was director and fellow of the Louisiana Scholars' College from 1986-87.

Chadick was selected three times as one of NSU's exemplary faculty members for the National Distinguished Professor Award CASE and served as governor of the Louisiana-Mississippi section of the Mathematical Association of America for three years. Chadick is the creator and director of Faculty Teaching Circles, a program dedicated to the improvement of college teaching. He was selected as one of two university faculty to receive the first award for the NSU Alumni Association's Outstanding Teacher Award and was one of three faculty to receive the University's first Distinguished Faculty Chair honor.

Among scholarly activities, Chadick authored a college algebra text, proceeds from which go directly to a travel fund for the NSU math department. He has written chapters of material for Louisiana Virtual School on Algebra I and a college course for teachers teaching Algebra I. He is also co-author of a textbook and 12 monographs on finding and keeping a job. He has published 10 papers in the last five years on teaching and technology and made several presentations at national meetings.

Chadick is writer or co-writer of numerous successful grants, securing over \$3.5 million in funding. He served as chair of the LaCIP curriculum committee writing the Louisiana curriculum framework for grades 5-8. He has served as a consultant to schools and parishes in Louisiana, colleges and universities and to the Louisiana Department of Education, writing and giving presentations. He has been an invited speaker at mathematics conferences, professional organizations, schools and civic groups on topics including motivation, teaching, mathematics and humor.

"This is a wonderful award. This is an individual honor, but almost all the other things I have done, I did with colleagues, especially my spouse," said Dr. Chadick, whose wife, Kathleen Chadick, is an instructor of mathematics at NSU.

"I have been doing this job 36 years and its just as much fun today as it was back then," said Chadick, who will retire in December. "It's humbling, especially at this point. This is a meaningful award, but what's really rewarding is to get an e-mail or a letter and a student say 'You had a profound affect on my life,' two or three of those really sustain you."

NSU recognizes six faculty with Excellence in Teaching Awards

Six outstanding educators at Northwestern State University were recognized for their contributions to the university and their individual colleges as recipients of NSU's Excellence in Teaching Awards. The six honorees, who were selected by their peers, were presented at the annual Homecoming banquet on Friday, Oct. 14 and recognized during half-time of the Homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 15.

The faculty and their respective colleges are Joe Morris, College of Liberal Arts; Mollie M. Moody, College of Nursing; Robert Gillan, Ed.D., College of Education; Dr. Jack P. Russell, College of Business; Jean D'Amato Thomas, Louisiana Scholars College, and Richard DeVault, College of Science and Technology.



Joe Morris

Morris is the coordinator of the Criminal Justice Program at NSU and teaches classes in criminal justice and sociology. During his career, he has served as an instructor for the U.S. Navy, a police academy adjunct instructor and a college-level instructor. He holds a master's degree in criminal justice and has more than 20 years experience in law enforcement, including positions of management, patrol, investigations, training and identification. Morris's areas of expertise are Fourth Amendment, search and seizure, police stress, community policing and electronic surveillance.

Morris has been instrumental in the development of the Criminal Justice Program at Northwestern. When the program began in 1997, he was the only professor in the program teaching 25 criminal justice majors. Today, there are more than 400 criminal

justice majors seeking both associate and bachelor degrees. Morris has overseen the development of the program's on-line classes and has authored numerous grants totaling in the hundreds of thousands of dollars for professional law enforcement development and community policing programs. He has authored several resource and instruction guides focusing on varied aspects of the criminal justice field.



Mollie M. Moody

Moody has been an assistant professor of nursing since 2001, instructing clinical, theory and laboratory nursing classes that focus on maternal/newborn and women's health, community health, medication dosage calculations, basic nursing skills, surgical nursing skills and health assessment. During her career, she has also taught theory and clinical classes in nursing ethics, pediatrics, pharmacological aspects of nursing and psychiatric mental health.

continued on page 7

Excellence in Teaching Awards *continued from page 6*

Moody began her career as a registered nurse in 1972 and moved into nursing education in 1982. She earned BSN and MSN degrees and has worked with several hospitals and universities as both a nurse and nursing instructor. She has served on several NSU College of Nursing committees, including the Student Affairs Committee, Curriculum Committee, Coordinators Committee and Summer Appeals Committee. She served on Level 1 Faculty Committee and was coordinator of Level 3 Faculty Committee. Moody holds membership in Sigma Theta Tau International, the Louisiana State Nurses Association and the Shreveport District Nurses Association. Among her research projects are investigating how Internet and lab instruction affects the proficiency of clinical nursing students and information literacy for evidence-based practice.



Dr. Robert Gillan

Gillan developed and directs Educational Technology, the largest graduate concentration at Northwestern and one of the largest programs of its kind in the nation. He currently serves as professor to more than 300 students and advises hundreds of Louisiana educators seeking technology certification. Dr. Gillan pioneered the development of web-based instruction and taught the university's first Internet courses. He has collaborated with faculty to support grants for program funding and coauthored the proposal that helped NSU's College of Education receive one of the 10 Microsoft Innovative Teacher Program grants in the United States.

Gillan has authored or co-authored numerous internationally refereed technology journal articles and a book chapter. He has served on the editorial board for three professional journals, co-editor of an online journal and played an active role in the leadership of state and international professional technology organizations. Last year, he delivered the keynote address to a state conference and provided a spotlight session for an international conference.

Since 1999, Russell has held the Morrison Professorship and has chaired the NSU's Computer Information Systems program. Russell sponsored NSU's Student Association of Information Systems Professionals guiding them to five



Dr. Jack P. Russell

consecutive first place national championships in systems analysis at the National Collegiate Championship and has earned both the "Go the Extra Mile" award and the Distinguished Service Award from AITP. In 2003, Russell was recognized with Outstanding Service Award for dedicated service to Northwestern State University. Under Russell's leadership as CIS coordinator, NSU's CIS program has been nationally recognized by three major companies as a preferred institution for recruiting.

Russell is a past business leaders professor and has taught nearly two dozen information systems courses. He has authored several textbooks focusing on business modeling, business logic and design and computers in education and has published countless articles related to teaching program designs and systems analysis. Russell pioneered curriculum development of courses on e-commerce, systems analysis and database design and has supervised many student projects that created databases and systems for area businesses. Among Russell's numerous professional activities, he serves on the board of directors of the Institute for the Certification of Computing Professionals and served as the national president for the Foundation for Information Systems Education.

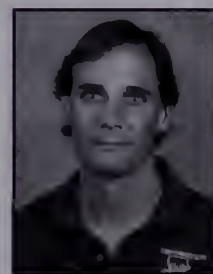


Dr. Jean D'Amato Thomas

Thomas is a professor of Classics and art history, specializing in Italian studies. She has served as advisor and work staff supervisor and developed an abroad study course, held in Rome and southern Italy every two years. D'Amato Thomas developed several courses at the Louisiana Scholars' College focusing on the Classical tradition in art, Greek and Roman art, Greek and Latin elements in English, comedy and satire in the ancient world and an interdisciplinary study of art and science. D'Amato has published numerous articles relating to Classical and Medieval literature and is currently completing a scholarly book on formation of

antiquarian tradition.

D'Amato Thomas has lectured extensively at conferences and symposiums in the United States and abroad. Throughout her career, she has been extensively involved in Classical associations and societies and has made presentations to elementary and secondary students. She has served as advisor on curriculum development at other universities as well as on commissions to develop foreign language instruction requirements. D'Amato Thomas has authored numerous grants through the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities and, most notably, the Fulbright Commission, which brought a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence program to NSU in 2002. D'Amato Thomas was the 1992 recipient of the Mildred Hart Bailey Research Award, awarded annually to an outstanding faculty researcher.



Dr. Richard DeVault

DeVault is an associate professor of mathematics, teaching several levels of finite math, calculus, differential equations, complex variables and other advanced disciplines of mathematics. He also supervises senior research projects and directs students' master theses. DeVault has published dozens of complicated research articles in mathematical journals and conference proceedings and made countless presentations on stability and behavior of numbers, recursive sequences, solutions and difference equations and their applications.

In 2001, DeVault received NSU's Mildred Hart Bailey Research Award and earlier this year received the Distinguished University Teaching Award from the Louisiana-Mississippi Mathematical Association of America. Since 1996, he has been a scientist with the NASA/JOVE scholarship program and has been director of that program since 1999. He has served on an internal grant evaluation committee, the University Planning Council and the Faculty Senate. He has refereed and/or reviewed many papers for several mathematical journals and is currently the chair of the mathematics section of the Louisiana Academy of Sciences. He holds membership in several honor societies, including the American Mathematical Society and Phi Kappa Phi.

Barry Smiley Professorship in Marketing created

An endowed professorship created in memory of Dr. Barry Smiley, who served as dean of the College of Business at NSU and a member of the faculty has been completed.

The Barry Smiley Professorship in Marketing was created with gifts from alumni, friends of the university and businesses. The \$60,000 which was raised to create the professorship will be matched with \$40,000 from the Board of Regents Support Fund to create a \$100,000 endowed professorship.

An endowed professorship is created to fund the academic activities and research of a faculty member who has established a record of excellence in a specific academic discipline. Interest from the endowed professorship provides needed resources to support faculty innovations in teaching, training and continuous improvement. These faculty innovations determine the quality of a university's programs and its student output and the reputation of the university.

"It is gratifying to know that many people thought so much of my father and were willing to contribute toward this professorship," said Elizabeth Smiley Brown, who is Smiley's daughter. "It is nice that his memory will go on his chosen profession."

Smiley, who died in 2000, served as dean of the College of Business at Northwestern from 1990 through 1998. Under his guidance, the College of Business earned accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs and the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

From 1986-90, Smiley served as director of the Small Business Development Center at NSU while continuing as a professor of marketing. For three years, from 1983 to 1986, he was dean of the College of Business and Applied Science. Prior to coming to Northwestern, Smiley was chairman and professor in the Department of Business Administration at Louisiana College in Pineville. He also was on the faculty at Columbus College in Columbus, Ga., and East Texas State University in Commerce.

In addition to his professional career, Smiley was active in the Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce and other civic and community activities.

"He had a passion for the city of Natchitoches, Northwestern and the College of Business," said Brown. "That passion spread to other people and with them he was able to accomplish important things for the College of Business such as achieving accreditation and moving into Russell Hall."

Smiley also began an active fundraising effort in the College of Business, helping obtain funds for its first three endowed professorships. The College of Business has 11 endowed professorships and one \$1 million endowed chair, which is awaiting matching funds.

Alumn



Molly Beach ('02), Lindsey Wright Wilson ('01) and Kim Wright ('85) tailgate before the NSU vs Lafayette game.

NSU vs Lafayette Tailgate



Mary Dranguet ('64), Sandra McCullen and Margaret Berry are getting ready to cheer NSU.



Adam Swales ('97), Kristi Cooley Simms ('03) and Clint Loggins ('00) are catching some shade before the big game.



Babe and Steve Cole ('51) enjoy food and fun before the game.



Mayor Wayne McCullen ('65) and Rob Posey ('01) share a few laughs before the NSU vs Lafayette game.

Retirees Reception at Homecoming



Mary Lee Posey ('47) and Ellis Melder ('61) are all smiles at the 2005 Retirees Reception at Homecoming.



Rose ('53) and Tom Clinton enjoy a meal at the Retirees Reception.



Arnold ('49) and Juanita Kilpatrick ('49) at the 2005 Retirees Reception at Homecoming



Dean of the University College Dr. Sue Weaver ('63), Colleen Lancaster ('47) and Marion Nesom ('41) enjoy a meal at the 2005 Retirees Reception at Homecoming.



Gordon and Charlie Coker reminisce about past memories at the Retirees Reception at Homecoming.



Jeanette McDonald, Dr. Tom Burns and Kathleen Chadick share a few laughs at the Retirees Reception at Homecoming.

Alumni Golf Tournament



Mike Goins ('86), Jason Shapko, Matt Koury ('95) and current NSU student Caleb Landry prepare for the Alumni Golf Tournament.



Dylan Payne ('98), Matt Gandy ('99), Scooter Perot ('98) and Brandon Bernard ('98) get ready for their match on the green.

Gatherings

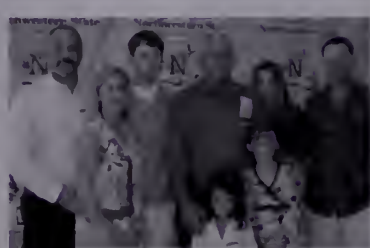
2005-1955 Football Team Reunion Reception at Homecoming



NSU's 1955 Football team celebrates their 50th reunion before the Homecoming. From left to right: J.M. Bourgeois, Gary Hickman, Ted Simon, Jack Rogers, Coach Walter Ledet, Doc Bankston, Coach Slim Howell. Back row, Dan Chase, Charles Henaigan, Jim Bruning, Dale Hoffpauir, Bobby Alost, Miles King, Dewey O'Neal, Roy Underwood, John Richard, Cecil Johnson

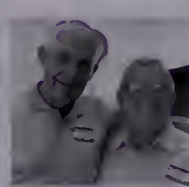


Dale Hoffpauir ('60), Ted Simon ('56), Eddie Under ('60), and John Richard ('59) come together to celebrate their memories of NSU football.



The Gary Hickman family at the 2005-1955 football team reunion

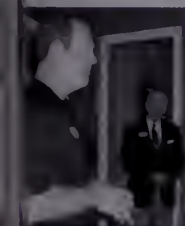
The Miles King family at the 2005-1955 football team reunion



Doc Bankston ('57) and Roy Underwood ('60) share a few laughs



2005 Dallas Capital Campaign Party



Host Stan Broome ('93) and NSU President Dr. Webb address the guests at the 2005 Dallas Capital Campaign Party.



Sharon Sampitè Waskom ('85) and Gene Daniel ('67) enjoy food and conversation at the 2005 Dallas Capital Campaign Party.



Jeffery Burkett and Richard Zulick ('71) listen to host, Stan Broome, at the 2005 Dallas Capital Campaign Party



Guests at the 2005 Dallas Capital Campaign Party listen to a speech by the host.

2005 Alumni Band Reunion



Former NSU band members share a few laughs at the 2005 Alumni Band Reunion at Homecoming.



Former NSU band members together celebrating the 2005 Alumni Band Reunion at Homecoming.



Former NSU band members reminisce about old times over food and fun at the 2005 Alumni Band Reunion at Homecoming.



Former NSU band members are all smiles at the 2005 Alumni Band Reunion at Homecoming.

Joint venture between NSU and Rapides Regional Medical Center assists Radiologic Technology

Northwestern State University will be able to better serve the growing health care needs of central Louisiana through a grant of \$820,069 from Rapides Regional Medical Center to assist NSU's radiologic technology program. The grant will run through the 2010-2011 school year.

The grant will update and expand an existing joint venture between NSU and Rapides Regional to offer the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology in Alexandria. For the past four years, students in Alexandria have a bachelor's in radiologic technology in Alexandria and 24 students have completed the program. Fourteen of the graduates were hired by Rapides Regional.

"The support that Rapides Regional provides helps us tremendously," said Laura Aaron, director of NSU's radiological technology program. "The joint venture has been mutually beneficial. Rapides Regional came to us because of a need to hire bachelor's prepared radiologic technologists. We were able to meet their need with their help."

Under the grant, the university will be able to hire additional faculty and increase faculty salaries to become more competitive. The program is projected to produce 10 graduates annually.

Rapides Regional is providing office space for faculty and clinical facilities in its Radiology Department for student clinicals and provides release time for designated clinical instructors as needed for clinical supervision of enrolled and assigned NSU students.

"We would not have a program in Alexandria without Rapides Regional," said Aaron.

Northwestern has one of only 26 bachelor's in radiologic technology programs in the United States. The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

Rapides Regional previously made a donation to NSU to establish two \$100,000 endowed professorships in radiologic technology.

College of Education honors Distinguished Educators, Friend of Education



Five Northwestern State University alumni were named Distinguished Educators and one alumnus was designated a Friend of Education by the university's College of Education. The distinguished group was recognized and honored during Northwestern's Homecoming festivities Oct. 15 and inducted into the College of Education Hall of Fame. Inducted into the Hall of Distinguished Educators are Joe D. Cornett of Rogers, Ark., Dan Carr of Natchitoches, James Larry Skinner of Stonewall, Robert Crew of Natchitoches and the late R.J. Stoker. Stoker's daughter, Becky Kyle, accepted the honor on his behalf. Walter Lee has been named a Friend of Education.

✧ After graduating from Winnfield High School, Carr earned a degree in mathematics education and health and physical education at Northwestern in 1955. He earned a masters degree in mathematics education and school administration at NSU and doctor of education in mathematic education and school administration from the University of Mississippi. Carr began his career teaching math, health and physical education at Natchitoches High School was later head football and track coach. He was supervising teacher for mathematics student teachers at NSU before serving as supervising principal for all student teachers at Natchitoches High. Carr was principal at Natchitoches High from 1963-70 and was director of consolidated high schools into Natchitoches Central High School from 1970-72. Carr was a professor in the College of Education for several years until his appointment to department head in 1983. He was named dean of the

College of Education in 1985. He retired as director of Institutional Research at NSU in 2000, having served in that capacity since 1987.

Among his numerous professional and community service endeavors, Carr has chaired the Natchitoches Parish School Board Citizen's Budget Study Committee since 2003. Having served as secretary of the Kiwanis Club since 1996, he was elected 2003-04 Kiwanis District 11 Secretary of the Year and the 2004-05 Kiwanian of the Year. He has chaired the Administrative Council at First United Methodist Church and served as president of the Graduate "N" Club of Northwestern State University. He was editor of the Louisiana Education Research Journal from 1979-94.

✧ Cornett earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education at Northwestern in the early 1960s and doctorate in education in 1966 from the University of Arkansas. During his career,

he served as both a middle school teacher in Bossier Parish and a professor of education, mostly at Texas Tech University, where he was chair for many years at the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership, the larger of two departments in the College of Education. His academic interests led him to specialize in the areas of curriculum, quantitative research design and analysis and statistics. He authored eight books and over 50 journal articles, monographs and technical reports and was instrumental in Texas Tech's successful move toward Division I Research status. Prior to that he taught three years at Southeastern Louisiana University and served as a mathematics teacher at Rusheon Junior High in Bossier City.

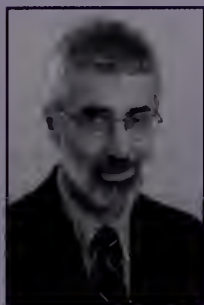
A native of Waterproof, Cornett has contributed to NSU through his alumni status and, through his research and scholarly work in education, has gained national and international reputation in his field. He has been recognized by universities and by scholarly groups for sustained records of published research over the past three and half decades.

✧ Crew earned a bachelor's degree at Northwestern in 1965 and a master of education degree in 1968. Since 1997, he has served as executive assistant to the president of Northwestern State University. Crew began his career as a teacher in Caddo Parish and St. Mary Parish schools. He worked for many years in the state Department of Education, which he served as both deputy superintendent and acting deputy superintendent. Also in the Department of Education, he served as supervisor, assistant director and director of the Bureau of Higher Education and Teacher Certification, director of the Bureau of Continuing Education, and was director when those two bureaus merged. He also served as acting assistant superintendent of academic programs for the Department of Education.

Crew is a member of the NSU President's Council, the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches, the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission and Phi Kappa Phi. He served on numerous evaluation

continued on page 11

Phifer named Director of NSU's Louisiana Scholars' College



Dr. Curt Phifer

Dr. Curt Phifer has been named acting director of the Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern State University.

A professor of biology, Phifer has been a member of the Scholars' College faculty since 1988. Prior to coming to NSU, he was on research faculty at Duke University after earning degrees from the University of Kentucky, Florida State University and North Carolina State University.

Phifer served as the chair of the NSU Human Subjects Institutional Review board from 2003 until July of this year and was president of the NSU Faculty Senate from 1999-2001.

"I view the Louisiana Scholars' College as an integral part of NSU, offering an attractive alternative to students who are seeking a comprehensive and interdisciplinary honors curriculum in the liberal arts," Phifer said. "The primary strengths of the Scholars' College are, first its very bright and enthusiastic students, and second its highly qualified and dedicated faculty."

Recognizing these strengths, Phifer hopes to build on the successes of prior directors.

"My major goals for the coming year are to improve recruitment and retention so even more students can take full advantage of the Scholars' College," he said. "I believe an increased emphasis on scholarship by both faculty and students and implementation of a serious service-learning component can go a long way toward making the College more attractive to potential students."

As a research biologist, Phifer's interests are in the neural control of feeding behavior. His work has been published in national and international journals and he has contributed chapters to several books. He has also obtained extramural funding for two substantial research grants for NSU.

Distinguished Educators, Friend of Education *continued from page 10*

teams for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). He organized and served on state visiting committees for approval of teacher education programs at state colleges and universities and was an active member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification.

Crew was president of the Louisiana State Association of School Personnel Administrators. He served as ex officio member of the State Advisory Commission on Teacher Education and Certification, served as a member of the Louisiana Teacher Education Professional Standards Commission and served on the executive committee of the Louisiana High School Athletic Commission. He is the 1993 recipient of the Pelican Chapter of the American Business Women's Association's "Business Associate of the Year" award. He is an ex officio member of the Northwestern State University Foundation board of directors.

✧ Skinner earned an undergraduate degree at Northwestern in 1961, a graduate degree in 1967 and completed 30+ hours. He is a member of the Graduate "N" Club Athletic Hall of Fame, past member of Phi

Epsilon Kappa at NSU and a member of Phi Delta Kappa.

Skinner was superintendent of schools in Sabine Parish for 14 years and was principal of Many High School for nine years. He coached basketball and taught social studies, physical education and English. He served as president and vice president of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents and chaired and served on several Southern Association of Elementary and Secondary School evaluation committees.

✧ Stoker graduated from Many High School in 1927 and from Northwestern in 1931 or 1932. He did graduate work at Colorado State and Stephen F. Austin, where he earned a master's degree. Stoker was principal at Belmont, Toro, Noble and Pleasant Hill schools. While serving at Belmont, he was the youngest principal in the state, at age 23. He was at Pleasant Hill for 20 years. In 1964, he became state director of school food services and commodity distribution for the Louisiana State Department of Education. He was president of the Sabine Teachers Association for three terms and was president of the Northwest Louisiana Principals Group.

Stoker organized the Louisiana

Principal's Association and served three terms as president. He was president of the NSU Alumni Association for two terms and served on the Louisiana High School Athletic Executive Committee for four terms and served as vice president and president of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association. He is a member of the NSU Graduate "N" Club and the Louisiana High School Athletic Association and Coaches Hall of Fame. Stoker was author of a well-received book, "Telling It Like It Was," of his memories of early education in Sabine Parish. Stoker passed away Jan. 8, 2004, in Lake Jackson, Texas, at age 93.

✧ Veteran superintendent Lee is a 1958 graduate of Northwestern. He was elected vice president of the Louisiana State Board of Education, representing 10 parishes in the northwest part of the state. Lee was superintendent in DeSoto Parish for nearly 13 years and has been a member of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education since 1991. Before moving to DeSoto Parish, he held the superintendency in Caddo Parish for 12 years. Earlier he served as business manager and director of finance in Caddo Parish.

Fall enrollment affected by new admissions standards

Northwestern State University had an enrollment of 9,847 students for the fall 2005 semester. Last fall, the student population was 10,546.

The fall 2005 semester was the first term for new admissions standards at the university.

NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb said a decrease in enrollment was expected, but the overall figures are better than university officials were anticipating.

"We knew that there would be a drop in enrollment during the first semester of implementing admission criteria, but in the long run the university should see its retention rate and graduation rate increase," said Webb. "Northwestern will be a stronger, more vibrant university which will continue to attract outstanding students."

Northwestern's overall enrollment was also impacted by the movement of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment from Fort Polk to Fort Lewis, Wash. NSU's Leesville-Fort Polk campus has a large number of active duty military and spouses enrolled.

The university continued to increase its out of state enrollment from 707 to 750, an increase of six percent. Northwestern has stepped up its student recruitment in Texas over the last three years.

Enrollment at other campus sites, which includes electronic classes, also continues to grow, improving from 1,786 to 2,124 students. This semester, 1,433 students are enrolled exclusively in distance learning classes.

Northwestern has continued to expand its distance education, offering most of its Masters of Art in Art and its bachelor's in criminal justice online. NSU is also working to assist students displaced by Hurricane Katrina by offering additional Internet classes. The university plans to contribute to a partnership between the Sloan Foundation and the Southern Regional Education Board to provide classes for students impacted by the storm.

"NSU wants to do all it can to help the students who could not attend classes at their college or university because of Hurricane Katrina," said Webb. "The university is experienced in providing distance education. We will attempt to offer as many classes as possible during this semester."

The university has enrolled 150 students who were attending colleges and universities that closed this semester because of Hurricane Katrina.

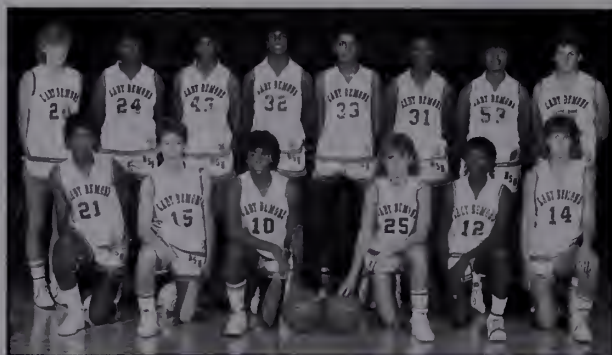
NSU to host basketball reunion in the spring

As the basketball season is right around the corner and teams are getting ready to break records, nothing better than a team reunion to remind and celebrate NSU's winning tradition. Northwestern State University will host a basketball reunion for former team members next February. The women's basketball reunion is scheduled for Feb. 4, 2006, while the men's reunion is scheduled for Feb. 11, 2006.

The highlight of the reunions will be the presence of former members of the 1985-86 Lady Demons basketball team. The 1985-86 squad holds the record for the most wins record in school history (25-7). The team led by former head coach Pat Pierson had also best winning percentage in school history (.781), most field goals in a season (1154), and second consecutive Gulf Star Conference Championship. The Lady Demons basketball was also invited to the Women's National Invitational Tournament, where they reached the championship game, facing big schools such as Duke University, and earned the respect from other teams and the crowd.

The 1985-86 was also brilliant as individuals. Teresa Thomas and Lonnie Banks closed their college basketball careers with honors and awards. Thomas left the school holding the most assists record for a career, season and game, in addition to ending her career as all-time leading free-throw shooter. Banks set the school record steals in a career and season, and also put her name in the record book for points in the game (42), and most field goals made (21). Both guards were All-Gulf Star Conference first team selections and Thomas also earned second team All-America honors.

For more information about the reunion, contact the Athletic Department at (318) 357-5251.



The 1985-86 Lady Demon Basketball Team were (front) Annie Harris, Michelle Efferson, Lonnie Banks, Teresa Thomas, Kristy Harris, Monica Lee, (back) Lori Martin, Val Williams, Clara Jean Davis, Gussie Leonard, Linda Grayson, Sandy Pugh, Julie Harvey & Missy Landreneau.

NSU flag from Iraq helps raise funds at Athletic Auction

A flag emblazoned with the NSU logo and signed by U.S. soldiers serving in Iraq was one of the most popular items up for bid during the Athletic Scholarship Auction. The flag was purchased by Calvin Braxton who plans to hang the NSU flag and an accompanying American flag at one of his Ford dealerships, either in Leesville or Natchitoches.

The NSU flag was flown over a United States military base in Baghdad and signed by several members of the 1/15th Armor Battalion, all NSU alumni or former and current students. The flag was framed for the auction, along with an American

flag, which was flown over the U.S. military base in Iraq. The framed items also included an engraved plaque and photos of the soldiers signing the flag.

"It's amazing. I've had so many people to offer to buy it," Braxton said. "But after the auction, I met two of the wives of the soldiers that signed it and they hugged me and had tears in their eyes. It's worth more to keep it."

Several groups in the Leesville area have approached him about putting the flags on public display, he said.

"It's got a lot of sentimental value," Braxton said.

Reunion to celebrate 1981 national championship, track complex renovation

Almost 25 years ago, four young men placed their names among the elite in Northwestern State University's athletic history. The 25th anniversary of the Demons' NCAA 400-meter relay national championship will be celebrated this spring as NSU's track and field program holds a reunion of former athletes, coaches, trainers and managers.

The reunion, scheduled for March 25 on campus in Natchitoches, will commemorate the remarkable achievement of the Demons' relay team at the 1981 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Baton Rouge. Coached by Jerry Dyes, the foursome of Mark Duper, Mario Johnson, Victor Oatis, and Joe Delaney outran teams from Georgia, Tennessee and Arizona State, among others, to win the national title. Winning that event helped to place NSU 11th in the nation in the final team standings for the meet.

The reunion will also celebrate the long awaited renovation of the Walter Ledet Track and Field Complex. The facility is under construction to accommodate relocation of

some event venues and the installation of a new surface for the track, which has not been able to host competitions since 2002. Work is scheduled to be finished by the end of the fall semester. Weather issues may result in a delay completing the project, however Charles Bourg, the coordinator of athletic facilities

for Northwestern, said that cold or rainy weather could halt the final stage, installation of the rubberized track surface over an asphalt and concrete base. "If the weather gets bad, we might push the deadline to March, because with cold and rain, the glue will not stick," he said.

The reconstruction of the track complex is a \$1.06 million project. The



The 1981 Relay Team left to right: Mark Duper, Joe Delaney, Victor Oatis and Mario Johnson (bottom)

original facility, designed in the mid-1970s, was outdated because there are many more

athletes using it now due to women's intercollegiate competition and the addition of some events, such as the hammer throw. The architects reconfigured the facility to better support both women's and men's events. The new configuration is also important to ensure the athletes' safety, so that the area inside the track will not be too congested.

The track and field season opens Jan. 14 in Baton Rouge.

The new track and field facility is scheduled to be ready by December, assuming proper weather conditions.

For more information about the reunion, contact the Athletic Department at (318) 357-5251. For information about the track and field reconstruction, contact Chuck Bourg at (318) 357-4152.

"A debt of gratitude is certainly owed to Mayor Wayne McCullen and the City of Natchitoches, along with State Senator Mike Smith and State Representative Taylor Townsend, for their role in helping secure funding for this facility, which receives heavy usage from campus and community constituencies. The renovation and reconfiguration of this facility will have an immediate impact on six of NSU's 14 Division I sports."

—Director of Athletics Greg Burke

Holy Cross Cookbook

Holy Cross Catholic Church is pleased to announce that its cookbook publication, *Cooking with Friends of Holy Cross*, is now on sale and available for a purchase price of \$12.00 each.

The book contains over 300 recipes contributed by Natchitoches residents, NSU alumni and staff, and friends of Holy Cross and the Catholic Student Organization. Also contained within its pages are historical photographs, a brief historical perspective of the church, and a section on secret recipes.

Books are available and will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Proceeds from this project will go towards Holy Cross Church and its student programs.

Cooking with Friends of Holy Cross may be purchased by dropping by the church office in Natchitoches, or by calling 318-352-2615. Mail orders are also available at \$12.00 per book plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling and may be sent to: Holy Cross Cookbook, 129 Second Street; Natchitoches, LA 71457.



Graduates of the Waterproof High School class of 1953 gathered for a reunion last fall. Six of the seven graduates of W.H.S. that year attended and graduated from Northwestern State University. From left are, from left, Dr. Joe Cornett, Alma Rabb Alost, Dr. Dan Chase, Irene Trevillion Lee and Harry Goodfellow. Not shown is Dr. Mervin Wampold.

The reunion was hosted by Dr. Chase.

Alumni Updates

1941

Ruby Irene Riddick Gibson is retired and lives in DeRidder.

1957

Ray G. Burnham is retired, married to Betty Baucum Burnham ('66) and lives in Springhill.

1961

Peggy Joe Robinson Pike is a retired teacher, married and lives in Homer.

1970

Bart Stewart is the owner of Reliable Uniforms and Duck-n-Cover, married to Judy Stewart ('76) and lives in Broussard.

1972

Doris Hebert Westbrook recently moved to Texas to develop school districts with the PAES Labs. She is married and lives in San Antonio.

1976

Laura Jane Richard Laird is an executive assistant at Callon Petroleum Company, married and lives in Natchez, Miss.

1977

Dr. Jeff Totten is an assistant professor of marketing at Southeastern Louisiana University and lives in Hammond. He attended the faculty development in International Business seminar on International Marketing

at the University of South Carolina in June 2005.

M. Melissa Gunter Semb is an art teacher/specialist, married and lives in Sulphur.

1979

Michael Cassidy is a business finance officer for King County Metro and lives in Bainbridge Island, Wash.

1981

Christy Prince Simmons is a health systems specialist, married and lives in Savannah, Ga.

1982

Margaret C. Clark Miller is employed at Commercial Metals Company, married and lives in Bedford, Texas.

1983

Jeffrey Allen Lechman is a mortgage manager for Citifinancial, married and lives in Bossier City.

1984

Carolyn J. Coker Hayes is a retired teacher, married and lives in Grand Cane.

1986

Raymond Nabors is a human resource specialist at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command and lives in Flintville, Tenn.

1988

Anthony Wann is a contracting officer at the Pentagon and lives in Springfield, Va.

Alumni Profile — Melody Heiskell

After evacuating New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, one Northwestern State University graduate returned to her alma mater to offer much needed medical skills at NSU's Red Cross shelter.

Melody Heiskell, a 2002 graduate of the Louisiana Scholars' College at NSU, spent many hours of many days volunteering at the Red Cross Shelter's medical clinic, serving the more than 700 evacuees housed there. The LSU Health Science Center-New Orleans fourth year medical student said it was her duty to do what she could to help those displaced by the devastation of south Louisiana.

Heiskell grew up in Shreveport and graduated from Scholars' in 2002. She finished a pediatric rotation at University Hospital in New Orleans on Friday, Aug. 26 before the hurricane made landfall on Monday, Aug. 29, and stayed with friends during the storm. On Sunday, there was no electricity. By Wednesday there was no water except that which flooded the streets, and looters were roaming the city. Feeling nervous about her safety, Heiskell decided to evacuate.

"I was on my way home to Savannah, Ga., and called Northwestern to see if there were any empty dorm rooms," said Heiskell. Dr. Curt Phifer, acting director of the Scholars' College, offered her his home. Shortly after she arrived in Natchitoches, she learned about the Red Cross shelter at NSU's Health and Human Performance facility. She began volunteering there the next day, where most of her time was spent helping the evacuees with the challenging task of getting back on track with their medications. After a week at the shelter, Melody was learning the names of some of the evacuees.

"They identify with me because I'm from New Orleans and I know where they're coming from," she said.

"She came in and fell right in and volunteered to do anything that needed to be done," said fellow volunteer Patricia Bailey, RN. "She was eager to do it."

"A lot of people left their medications at home and I'm helping them get them refilled," said Heiskell, who worked 6-10 hours a day at the clinic with more than 20 other medical volunteers. "We are also distributing over-the-counter medicine and sending them to the right doctor if we can't take care of them at the clinic. If it's serious, we tell them to go to the ER or the mental health clinic."

After several days at the shelter, evacuees worried about the conditions of their homes began asking for tetanus shots and were referred to the local health unit. Meanwhile, the Red Cross set up accounts at some area pharmacies to help those who could not pay for their medications and some pharmacies began delivering medications to the shelter.

As for finishing school, Heiskell heard word of mouth that the fourth year medical students would graduate on time. Heiskell plans to specialize in pediatrics and had arranged all pediatric rotations for her fourth year. While



Fourth-year medical student Melody Heiskell, an NSU alumna who plans to become a pediatrician, plays with 16-month-old Aaliyah Jackson, who was brought to the NSU Red Cross medical clinic with cold symptoms. After evacuating New Orleans, Heiskell spent the weeks in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina volunteering at the shelter. Aaliyah and her family left their home in Lafourche Parish before the Hurricane.

volunteering at the shelter, she was also trying to finish her residency application.

"I used to say New Orleans was my first choice, but now..." She planned to stay in Natchitoches until late September, then start rotation at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., and later go on to Northwestern University in Chicago.

Heiskell described her own evacuation as "boring" compared to the dramatic stories that made international headlines. Heiskell said she could live with no power and no water, but when the looting started, New Orleans became a frightening place. The home where she was staying was just two blocks from the Interstate-10 ramp, so she drove out alone.

"In retrospect it probably was not the safest, but staying was not safe either," she said. Later, looters broke into Charity Hospital, where she was scheduled to have started pediatric rotation that week. Heiskell's parents in Savannah were worried, but she had been in contact with them through pay phones. "I'm happy to know that just about everyone I know got out," she said.

Heiskell was unsure about the state of her home near Charity Hospital, but had heard it was surrounded by six feet of water. Aside from her schoolbooks and some sentimental items, Heiskell felt her loss was minimal and brushed off any praise for her work at the Red Cross shelter.

"I feel like every medical student should be doing this right now," she said. "It's our duty. If we were doing rotation we'd be doing the same thing. I hope my classmates are doing the same thing."

1990

Annie R. Bloxson is employed by the city of Pensacola Fire Department as a lieutenant and lives in Pensacola, Fla.

Meloney Dawn Scalisi Mitchell is a first grade teacher at Converse School, married and lives in Many.

1991

Jennifer Lea Anderson Kelly is director of auxiliary services at NSU, married to Keenan Kelly ('90) and lives in Natchez.

1993

Virginia Leigh Grooms Titterton is a certified wound, ostomy, continence nurse, married and lives in Carthage, Texas.

Harlan Dickson Hughes is a financial advisor at Legg Mason and lives in Shreveport.

Dr. Carol Ann Bernard is an adjunct instructor at the University of Houston-downtown and lives in Houston.

Douglas Hannah is a intraday analyst at Accenture and lives in Plano, Texas.

1995

Meloni L. Beltz Hartley is a stay at home mom, married and lives in Grand Junction, Colo.

Audra Delrie Kirkland is a program manager at GE Energy, married and lives in Kennesaw, Ga.

Amy Elizabeth Gewin St. Romain is a physical therapist at HealthSouth

Rehabilitation Hospital of Southern Arizona, married and lives in Tuscon, Ariz.

Ryan Arthur Martin is employed at National Seating and Mobility in medical sales, married and lives in Spring, Texas.

1996

Tristan McInnis is a programmer at Tyler Technologies, married and lives in Dallas.

Dr. John Parsley is a clinical psychologist in the United States Army, married and lives at Fort Knox, Ky.

1997

Ryan Perkins Stehr is a southwest field recruiter for The Jones Motor Group and volunteer wish granter for Make-A-Wish Foundation of LA. He is married and lives in Shreveport.

1998

Michael Ray Arnold is fireman for Pineville Fire Department and owner of Arnold's Nursery. He is married to Robin Nash Arnold ('98) and lives in Alexandria.

1999

Philip John Brunwald is married to Rebecca Stahl Brunwald ('00) and currently serving in the United States Army.

Marla Michelle Sawrie Swearengen is a social service counselor 4 at Northwest Louisiana Development Center, married and lives in Bossier City.

Matthew Mularoni is a company commander in the Military Police

Company with the 1st Calvary Division at Fort Hood.

Mitzi Evelyn DeKeyser Fairbanks is a kindergarten teacher at JB Nachman Elementary, married and lives in Alexandria.

Cynthia Dionne Washington is a customer service representative for Cingular Wireless and lives in Norcross, Ga.

Yolanda Leah Scott-Johnson is a medical analyst for Dr. Yvonne Scott-Miller. She is married to Terry Johnson ('98) and lives in Lawrenceville, Ga.

2000

Carin Link Wilson is an English, Speech and Drama teacher. She is married to Anthony Dean Wilson ('00) and lives in New Iberia.

Leif Founds is vice president at Corporate Billing, Inc., married to Mitzi Murphy Founds ('00) and lives in Birmingham, Ala.

2001

Bernetta Lorena Encalade Frazier is an accounting clerk/bookkeeper, married to Christian Frazier ('00) and lives in Gretna.

Christopher John Collier is a teacher/coach at Woodlawn High School, married to Jamie Marie Hughes Collier ('01) and lives in Denham Springs.

Michael Robert Buchman is a company commander (CPT) in the United States Army.

Jamie Marie Hughes

Collier is an executive assistant at Baton Rouge Regional Eye Bank, married to Christopher John Collier ('01) and lives in Denham Springs.

2002

Tessia Norris Price is a marketing director at Alexandria USDA Federal Credit Union, married and lives in Deville.

Danielle Nicole Chaudoir Gunter is an office manager at Robin Thibodeaux Trucking, married and lives in Lecompte.

Amanda Dooley has been named security administrator in the information systems department at Peoples State Bank in Many.

2003

Kimberly R. Huss is a homemaker, married and lives in Carthage, N.Y.

Christopher Paul Brumley is a systems support specialist in Electronic Learning at NSU.

Ashley Brooke Carline Williams is a senior lab technician for Albemarle Corporation, married and lives in Baton Rouge.

Misty Lauren Garrett is coordinator of student life at Birmingham Southern College and lives in Hoover Ala.

Jerod Ward is currently serving in the LA National Guard in Iraq and married to Rachel Smith Ward ('05).

Jesse Alan Kambrick is a computer operator

for the Louisiana Army National Guard and lives in Bossier City.

2004

Linda Danielle Held Morgan is a patient coordinator at Clarke Eye Care Center, married to Robert Terry Morgan ('02) and lives in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Jennifer Mary Adams Allen is pursuing teacher certification at the University of Houston, married and lives in Pearland, Texas.

A.J. Lukjanczuk is employed at Elon University as an assistant athletic trainer.

Tiffany Trichell Dauzat is a reporter and photographer for the Marksville Weekly News and Avoyelles Journal, married and lives in Marksville.

Julia Christine Dudley is a fine arts, music teacher and color guard instructor at North Avenue Intermediate School. She lives in Shiner, Texas.

Jonathan L. Neel has been named Vice-President of information systems at Peoples State Bank in Many.

Aimee Nicole Bobo is an algebra I teacher and cheerleader sponsor at Fontainebleau High School and lives in Mandeville.

Janelle LeAnne McCauley is an athletic trainer at St. Francis Cabrini Hospital-Sports

Medicine and lives in Pineville.

2005

Rachel Smith Ward is a law student at Loyola University of New Orleans School of Law and married to Jerod D. Ward ('03). She lives in Metairie.

Dana Ivy is a legal assistant at Glast Phillip & Murray and lives in Irving, Texas.

Jessica Briolo Fontenot is a four-year-old preschool teacher, married and lives in Opelousas.



In Memory

'39 Mrs. Frank C. Eason, Jr.

'42 James E. Boswell

'49 Philip DeTournillon

'50 Don Danos

'77 Eleanor McDaniel Taylor

Dr. Glyn Jackson Corley

Ralph W. Elizey

Oscar "O.C." Butler III

Henrietta David Breedlove

LOOKING BACK

The Ora Garland Williams Electronic Media Center, otherwise known as the TV Studio in Kyser Hall, underwent a major renovation in the spring of 2005. David Antilley, NSU News 22 Director and Producer, said that the studio is now "fully digital." "We've installed a new control room, new cameras, new editing equipment, and a new weather system that can be compared to a weather system of a small television market in a small town." The new weather system allows new satellite updates every 5 to 7 minutes. Also added to the studio were new graphics and audio equipment. Antilley said the University spent about \$450,000 on these renovations.

NSU 22 will celebrate its tenth anniversary in the spring of 2006. The TV Studio has come a long way since its first broadcast back in 1996, with one of the first things aired being President Webb's inauguration. Back then Antilley said the station only aired footage from satellite, "it was like MTV for the classic arts."

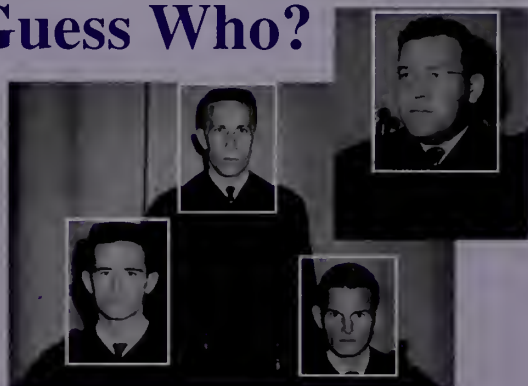


Eventually the studio produced a weekly 10 minute news broadcast that later evolved to a thirty-minute broadcast 3 times a week, then to a broadcast 5 days a week. Currently, there is now a news broadcast on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students create the news packages with the goal of informing the students of NSU and the community of Natchitoches. In

addition to the news, NSU 22 also provides a few student oriented shows; Demon Life, Demon Sports Today and a show hosted by President Webb and a student.

Students are the manpower for NSU 22 and other shows produced in the studio. Antilley said the more students we have the further we can take the shows we produce.

Guess Who?



Do you know who these members of the Class of 1956 Honor Court are? If so, be one of the first 10 people to contact the Alumni Affairs Office at (318) 357-4414 and you could win a prize!

Congratulation to the "Guess Who?" winners who knew the 1996 officers of the Wesley Westminster Foundation.

Ms. Gloria Parrino—96
Eunice

Mrs. Dawn Miller—98
Lafayette

Mrs. Ilse Plaisance—2000
Noble

Brian Sweeters—94
Natchitoches

Alumni Information Update

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Class Notes" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date _____ SSN: _____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.) _____
Please Circle Last First Middle Maiden

Current address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NSU undergraduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

NSU graduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

During which years did you attend NSU? _____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU? _____

Place of employment _____

Job title: _____ Work phone: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students? Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:

Director of University Recruiting
Northwestern
State University
South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-4503
800-327-1903

Director of Financial Aid
Northwestern
State University
Room 109, Roy Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5961

Athletic Director
Northwestern
State University
Room 101C
Athletic Fieldhouse
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5251

Graduate N Club Hall of Fame



National Collegiate Baseball Coach of the Year for 1997 Jim Wells, football standout Larry Gaudet, women's tennis great Shayne Fitzwilliam Duke and former All-Pro football Star John Stephens were the 2005 induction class for the Graduate N Club Hall of Fame, Northwestern State's top honor awarded to former student-athletes and coaches. Current athletic trainer Ed Evans was presented with an honorary Graduate N Club membership in recognition of his 16 years of service to Northwestern. Former basketball player Bill Loftin received the Graduate 'N' Club Lifetime Achievement Award.

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